



Green Bay Meeting Check-in, 4-16-03



Discussing Park Alternatives at the Public Meeting in Green Bay

What did you think?

Over the last few months we have received hundreds of letters, emails, and phone calls from you with input regarding the potential Alternatives for Governor Thompson State Park. The Master Planning Team considers all comments, and we appreciate your help! Those of you who attended one of the recent public meetings also had the opportunity to indicate your Alternative preferences on a public opinion sampler. Here is a brief summary of the results:

PARK ENTRY ALTERNATIVE:

Total Comments: 59

Support North Entry: 14%

Support South Entry: 86%

PARK BOUNDARY ALTERNATIVE:

Total Comments: 54

Support Boundary Expansion: 33%

Support No Boundary Change: 67%

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE:

Total Comments: 59

Support Pre-Settlement Conditions: 12%

Support Natural Succession: 22%

Support to Maintain Existing Conditions: 66%

RECREATION DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVE:

Total Comments: 70

Support Low Development: 23%

Support Mid Development: 46%

Support More Development: 23%

Support High Development: 8%

Total Master Plan Comments to Date: 1,509

Draft Alternatives Reflect Many Views

Margaret Mead once stated that we should “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed that is the only thing that ever has.” This statement rings true for the master planning process for Gov. Thompson State Park. Throughout master planning, members of the public, various recreation clubs, and numerous DNR staff have met and discussed the management alternatives for Gov. Thompson State Park. Together, we have formed a group of “thoughtful, committed citizens”. Although we are not quite ready to “change the world”, we are working

together to create the best master plan for the new State Park. The draft management alternatives on page 3 are the result of a decision making process that draws from all our input. From the beginning of the planning process we have solicited public opinion, both in person at public meetings, and in newsletters. We have conferred with the Upper Green Bay Partner Team, met with staff on the Core Team, and we have reported to and consulted with the DNR Guidance Team on a regular basis. We have also used the guidance provided in NR 44, our master planning Code. The process of master planning is

a way to “find the common ground” amongst all of the inputs and opinions gathered. It is important to keep in mind that while the preferred management alternative for Gov. Thompson State Park reflects a mixture of opinions, the park still can’t be all things to all people. It just isn’t possible without conflicts. But, it will provide the public with a colorful variety of recreational opportunities, habitat, landscapes, and educational activities that are as diverse as the group of people that came together to create them. Thanks for you help and input in the master planning process!